

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2354**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Conway**

February 21, 2014

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An act to add Section 10072.5 to the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to public social services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2354, as introduced, Conway. Electronic benefits transfer cards: photo identification.

Existing law provides for financial and food assistance benefits to needy Californians including, among other programs, the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program and CalFresh, under which each county provides financial and food assistance benefits to qualified individuals who meet specified eligibility criteria.

Existing law, administered by the State Department of Social Services, provides for the establishment of a statewide electronic benefits transfer (EBT) system for the purpose of providing those financial and food assistance benefits.

This bill would require, to the extent permitted by federal law, that an initial or replacement EBT card issued on or after January 1, 2015, include a photograph of the person to whom the card is issued.

By increasing the duties of counties in administering public social services programs, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 10072.5 is added to the Welfare and  
2     Institutions Code, to read:  
3     10072.5. To the extent permitted by federal law, an initial or  
4     replacement electronic benefits transfer card issued on or after  
5     January 1, 2015, shall include, on either the front or back of the  
6     card, a photograph of the person to whom the card is issued.  
7     SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that  
8     this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to  
9     local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made  
10    pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division  
11    4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.